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The Arizona **BEEHIVE** Magazine

Serving Arizona Members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints



Come, Come Ye Saints!

ON THE COVER

President and Sister Nelson exit a session of General Conference.

Photo courtesy of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

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193RD SEMI-ANNUAL GENERAL CONFERENCE

By Barbie VanCott

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will hold its 193rd Semi-Annual General Conference on Saturday, September 30 and Sunday October 1, 2023. Millions of members worldwide will hear the messages from our living prophet, apostles, and other church leaders. Following are some ideas of how can we better prepare to hear the voice of the Lord through his divine messengers, and act upon what we learn after we experience this glorious event.

Prepare your home and clear your schedule before General Conference begins. Dedicate your time to truly listen, with no distractions. In the October 2005 Priesthood Session, Paul V. Johnson said,

“Decide now to make general conference a priority in your life. Listen carefully and follow the teachings that are given.”

Kee a notebook nearby and record your thoughts as you receive personal inspiration and revelation. Elder Robert D Hales said in 2013 General Conference,

“When I take notes at a Conference, I do not always write down exactly what the speaker is saying. I note the personalized direction the spirit is giving me.”

Fast and pray before General Conference, to receive guidance, answers, and direction. Ponder those things that have been weighing on your mind and write them down. Then listen for the answers the Lord will send you, through His servants during the Conference. Elder Robert D. Hales testified,

“I promise you in His name, if you pray with a sincere desire to hear your Heavenly Father's voice in the messages of... conference, you will discover that He has spoken to help you, to strengthen you, and to lead you home into his presence.”

Open your mind and heart to hear Him. The Lord may have other messages for you, different then what you thought. Pray and listen to recognize His voice and He will help you find your answers. Elder Dieter F. Uchtdorf taught in General Conference, 2011,

“As you prepare for General conference I invite you to ponder questions you need to have answered. ... Answers to your specific prayers may come directly from a particular talk or from a specific phrase.”

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Visit [churchofjesuschrist.org](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org) for dates, times and broadcast viewing opportunities of each session.

Continued on pg. 5

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

Publishing Peace

After Alma the Younger and the Sons of Mosiah were converted, they each set out to repair the damage they had caused to the Church. It just might be that as an instrument of their repentance, they started a magazine! Mosiah 27:35 explains that they were "publishing all the things which they had seen, and explaining the prophecies and scriptures to all who desired to hear them." Could it be possible? What better way to get the word out quickly to large numbers than with a publication!

Mosiah 27: 37 further explains that "they did publish good tidings of good; and they did declare unto the people that the Lord reigneth."

"For they did publish peace!"

Now, of course I kid. The printing press had not yet been invented in 100-90 B.C. Nor had the ability to mass distribute a magazine via subscriptions or Deseret Bookstore racks or digitally over the internet. But these young men needed a way to mass distribute their message; their "good tidings of good." It would be interesting to know how they were able to accomplish this. Did they have a staff of writers handwriting their messages and passing them out at meetings and on street corners? Did they have people contributing ideas about what to communicate to their fellow Nephites? Did Father Alma manage the process? I wonder ...

*Mosiah 27:37 also exclaims "And how blessed are they!" Because they published peace. I can relate to that, what with both Alma the Younger and myself being fellow magazine publishers. For you see, we at **The Arizona Beehive Magazine** also "publish peace."*

We are often approached to publish content that is not so peaceful. The world, in case you have not noticed, is packed full of no-so-peaceful occurrences. Bad tidings of bad, if you will. People do not feel uplifted, but just the opposite, after consuming such content. So, we do not consider bad tidings of bad stories or content.

In the past we were known as "The Good News Newspaper." After taking ownership of the Arizona Beehive, I altered the philosophical intent of the publication to be more about what is going to happen (magazine format) instead of what happened (newspaper format). Admittedly we often publish stories about past occurrences, but only do so if they proclaim "good tidings of good" that our LDS audience will enjoy. And we have been blessed for doing so. Thank you for reading.



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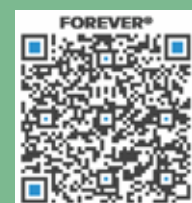


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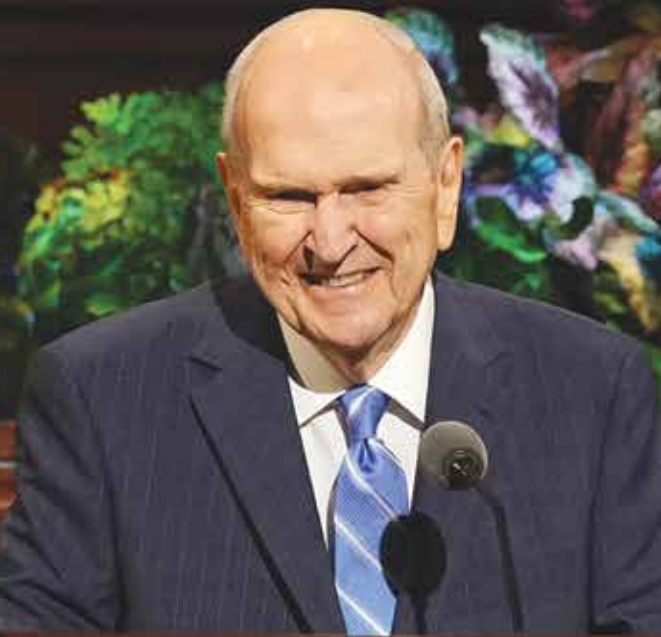
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Act on the answers you will receive by rededicating yourself to follow every prompting. It is important to commit to the things we need to change, through the revelation that comes. President Russell M. Nelson said in the April 2018 conference,

“I exhort you to study the messages of this conference frequently, even repeatedly, during the next six months. Conscientiously look for ways to incorporate these messages in your family home evenings, your gospel teaching, your conversations with family and friends, and even your discussions with those not of our faith. Many good people will respond to the truths taught in this conference when offered in love. And your desire to obey will be enhanced as you remember and reflect upon what you have felt these past two days.”



Attend the Temple often. Temple worship is a central part of our membership in the church. If we attend the Temple we can be more in tune with the Spirit and receive personal revelation. President Thomas S. Monson said in April 2015,

“As I think of temples, my thoughts turn to the many blessings we receive therein.”

Adults, Youth, Children to Study Book of Mormon in 2024 Using a Single Manual

By Newsroom of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

In 2024, Latter-day Saints of all ages will study the Book of Mormon from a single manual: “Come, Follow Me—For Home and Church.”

Instead of separate manuals for Primary, Sunday School, Young Women classes and Aaronic Priesthood quorum meetings, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will have one resource. Wards and branches will receive copies of this resource as outlined in “Instructions for Curriculum 2024,” sent to ward and stake leaders July 13.

Members may also order copies for themselves at store.ChurchofJesusChrist.org. Where possible, members are encouraged to access “Come, Follow Me” digitally at ComeFollowMe.ChurchofJesusChrist.org and in the Gospel Library app.

The First Presidency explained that these changes are part of “an effort to strengthen and simplify home-centered, Church-supported gospel learning.”

Home, Primary, Sunday School and Youth

The new, consolidated “Come, Follow Me—For Home and Church” supports gospel learning and scripture study for individuals and families at home. It also serves as the curriculum for Primary, Sunday School, and Young Women classes and Aaronic Priesthood quorum meetings.

Relief Society and Elders Quorum

Relief Society and Elders Quorum meetings focus on topics in one or more talks from the most recently available general conference.

Young Single Adult wards

YSA wards will receive a total of 10 copies of “Come, Follow Me—For Home and Church,” not one per individual.



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Our Daily Bread

In John 6:35, Jesus describes himself as the “bread of life.” He follows this description with a powerful promise that those who seek after Him and believe in Him will not hunger or thirst. He shared similar promises to the Samaritan woman at Jacob’s well.

When the disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray, He gave them a pattern, known today as the Lord’s Prayer. Lately, I’ve been thinking of the petition “Give us this day our daily bread” (Matthew 6:11) or “Give us day by day our daily bread” (Luke 11:3)

These verses and others are full of meaning. What comes to mind when you consider your daily bread?

Among the symbols of the gospel, bread is considered one of help and sustenance. Simple by nature of its uncomplicated ingredients, bread can give needed energy and in the

process lift hearts. The smell of fresh baked bread seems to be one of life’s simple pleasures. Walking into a room where the delicious scent greets your nose is one of those times which inspires a rush of memories. Did you know that a moment like this can be called a Proustian moment, named after famous

French novelist Marcel Proust? For me, the smell of fresh baked bread reminds me of time with family and friends. It seems the smell is baked into feelings of comfort, safety and peace.

Perhaps one reason why we love the smell and taste of home baked bread is found in its fleeting nature. Unlike most store-bought bread, bread from scratch doesn’t last long for a variety of reasons. It’s a use or lose commodity. Fresh bread does not keep. The French discovered they could use

stale, day-old bread to make a dish they call *pain perdu* or lost bread. In the United States, we call it French Toast.

In a recent interview, Jacob Hess, co-author of *The Power of Stillness: Mindful Living for Latter-day Saints* reflects on the lure of the loud and dramatic in American culture--referring to amazing epic experiences to distant places with invites to others to follow along on social media. He asks, “Are we willing to do the non-dramatic? To sit and listen to an untrained speaker in a Sacrament meeting share, in fumbling words, how they’re trying to find God? It’s a certain kind of practice to sit in a situation that is kind of routine and maybe even boring sometimes. You know, daily bread is just daily bread. It’s not a daily feast. It’s not a cruise. It’s bread. Our gospel culture is full of simple, normal, even routine, even boring opportunities where we can actually, if we’re listening, commune and hear God’s voice.”

Perhaps Christ’s example of asking God for daily bread was in part meant to teach us to hunger and search for God’s holy sustenance in life’s simple, daily moments, even rituals. Can daily bread help us piece together the puzzle of God’s bountiful offering of everyday mercies made up of imperfect moments?

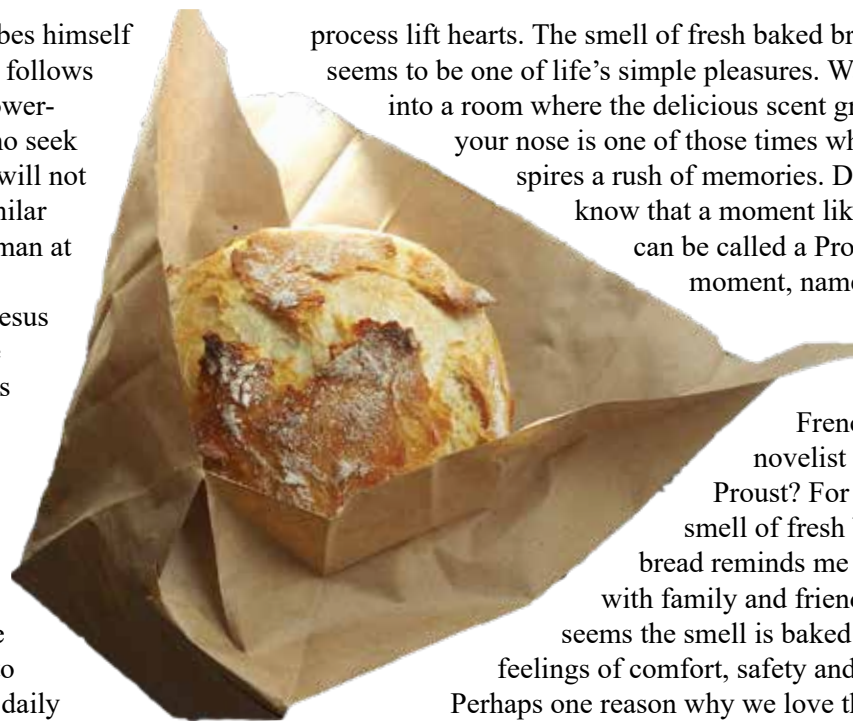


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FamilySearch Activities

By Glen K Tolman

A fun option available on FamilySearch is “Activities”. On the home page of FamilySearch.org prior to login, the main features are listed; FamilyTree, Search, Memories, Get Involved and Activities. Most of the FamilySearch “Activities” require a FamilySearch account. If you don’t have one, select “Create Account” and follow the instructions.

Most people find that many of their ancestors were added by other relatives and cousins. Two activities are available without having an account. One of these is “Surname Origins”. From the “Activities”

The rest of the “Activities” discussed below assume that you have a multi-generation tree on FamilySearch. These activities can be accessed from your computer or from your mobile phone.

The activity “Compare a Face” looks at your uploaded photo and compares it to your ancestors who have photos on FamilyTree. It is enjoyable to see which ancestors have the most resemblance to you. For me, the closest resemblance are my parents followed by my maternal great-grandfather and then my maternal grandfather. I am fortunate to have photos of many direct-line ancestors including all but one going back five generations. In addition to comparing your resemblance

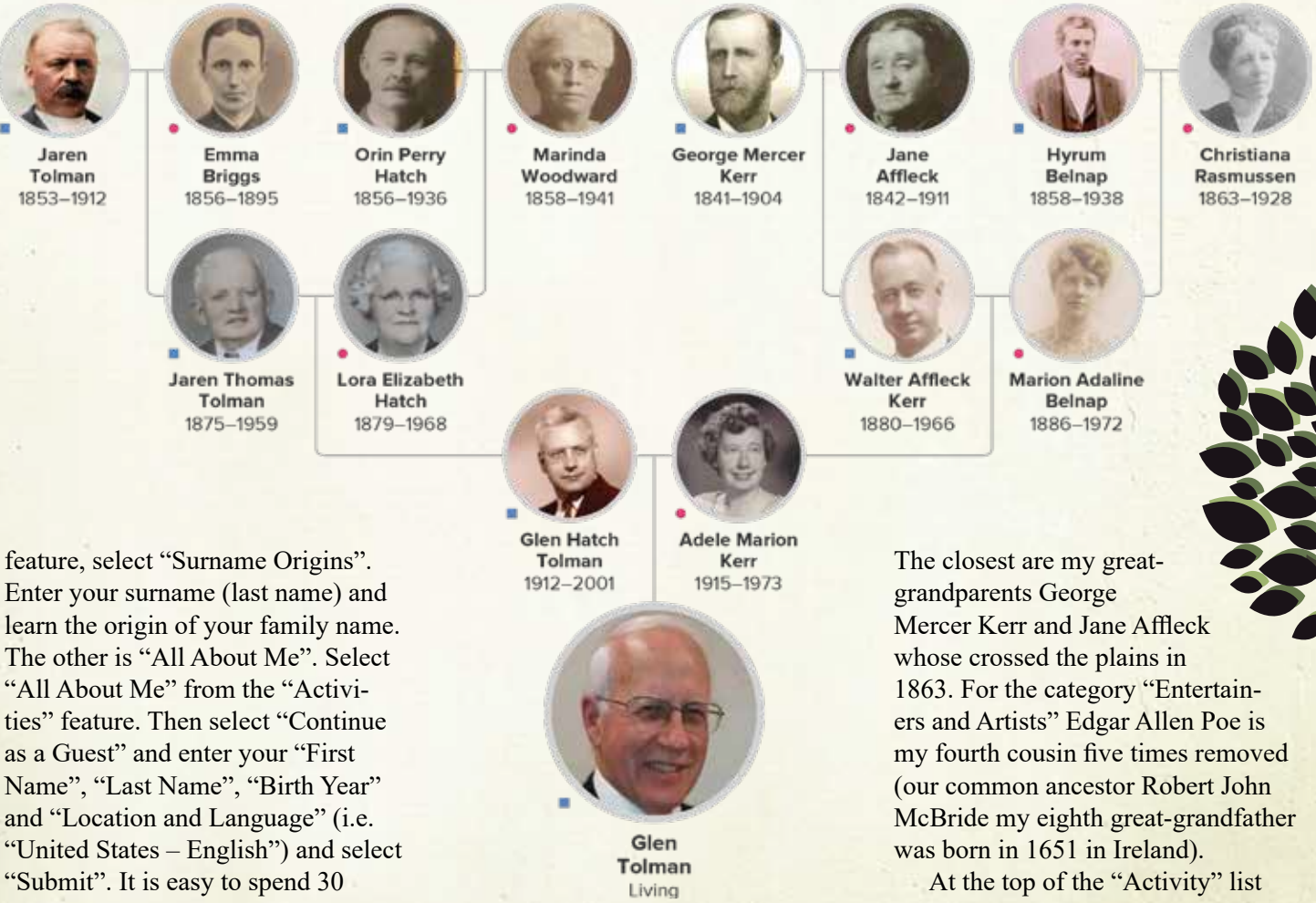
to relatives, you can compare yourself to celebrities. You will be surprised which celebrities you resemble!

The “Famous Relatives” activity checks your relationship to famous individuals. The more generations on your Family Tree, the more likely you will find your relationship to various famous relatives. On my family tree, I see seven categories of famous relatives. Gordie Howe, the hockey player, is my fifth cousin (Athletes category). Robert D. Hales is my third cousin once removed (Church Leaders category). I am related to 50 “Church Pioneers”.



Photo taken from Phillip Neho on Pixabay

Are these two a father and his young son? FamilySearch “Compare-a-Face” would say yes.



feature, select “Surname Origins”. Enter your surname (last name) and learn the origin of your family name. The other is “All About Me”. Select “All About Me” from the “Activities” feature. Then select “Continue as a Guest” and enter your “First Name”, “Last Name”, “Birth Year” and “Location and Language” (i.e. “United States – English”) and select “Submit”. It is easy to spend 30 minutes or more learning about what was happening during your birth year. You can also look at other years besides your birth year.

The “Activities” option is also available using the FamilyTree App on your mobile phone. At the place where the option “Relatives Around Me” is found, the option “Family History Activities” is listed. Selecting this option takes you out of the FamilyTree app to FamilySearch.org.

Hatch who served in the Tahitian mission in 1897 where I also served seventy years later. There are many discoveries to be found in the “Activities” section on FamilySearch, happy hunting.

The closest are my great-grandparents George Mercer Kerr and Jane Affleck whose crossed the plains in 1863. For the category “Entertainers and Artists” Edgar Allen Poe is my fourth cousin five times removed (our common ancestor Robert John McBride my eighth great-grandfather was born in 1651 in Ireland). At the top of the “Activity” list is “All Activities”. I selected the option “Missionaries” under “All About Your Ancestors”. I found my grandmother’s uncle Ezra Taft

Photo Taken from FamilySearch
Glen Tolman Four Generation
Portrait Pedigree Chart.



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PREP YOUR MISSIONARY

By Allison Beckert

School Year Mission Prep Countdown

With the school year resuming, prospective missionaries and their families have a long mission prep to-do list on top of whatever the school year holds. Mission preparation can be daunting when viewed as a whole. With a year left to work on it, there's time to make real progress, especially with support. Here are some ideas to prepare for a mission during the school year.

1 In the ever-changing landscape of missionary work, a steadfast foundation of spiritual study is essential. The newly published *Preach My Gospel 2nd Edition* serves as an invaluable guide for prospective missionaries. Digging into this book's teachings, immersing in its text and in the scriptures while engaging in personal prayer and reflection will help create such a foundation. Let the doctrines and principles become part of your daily testimony, allow them to take root in your heart. This is essential to preaching the gospel with love and clarity.

2 While preparing for a mission is a priority, it is crucial not to neglect your high school education. The year ahead offers a chance to cultivate time-management skills, striking a bal-

ance between academics and spiritual growth. As you pour your heart into mission preparation, remember that a well-rounded education will serve you not only during your mission but throughout your life's journey.

3 Time permitting, consider seeking work or volunteer opportunities during this year. Part-time employment can not only contribute to your mission fund but also teach valuable life skills, responsibility, and work ethic. A mission is as demanding, if not more than a job. If it suits better, engaging in community volunteer work fosters a spirit of service, mirroring the principles of missionary service and preparing you to be an instrument of God's love wherever you are called to serve.

4 The digital age offers endless distraction. Focus your time spent on non-essential apps or social media platforms, and balance it with meaningful interactions, spiritual study, and building connections that uplift and inspire. Be purposeful. This should make the transition far less painful.

5 For some prospective missionaries, financial considerations may be a concern. Use this year to plan

and make concrete choices. In addition to personal savings (which typically take more than a single year to accumulate enough), explore opportunities for an independent income or financial assistance. Not everyone has the resources, but talking frankly and openly with your bishop about your circumstances will open all areas possible for help.

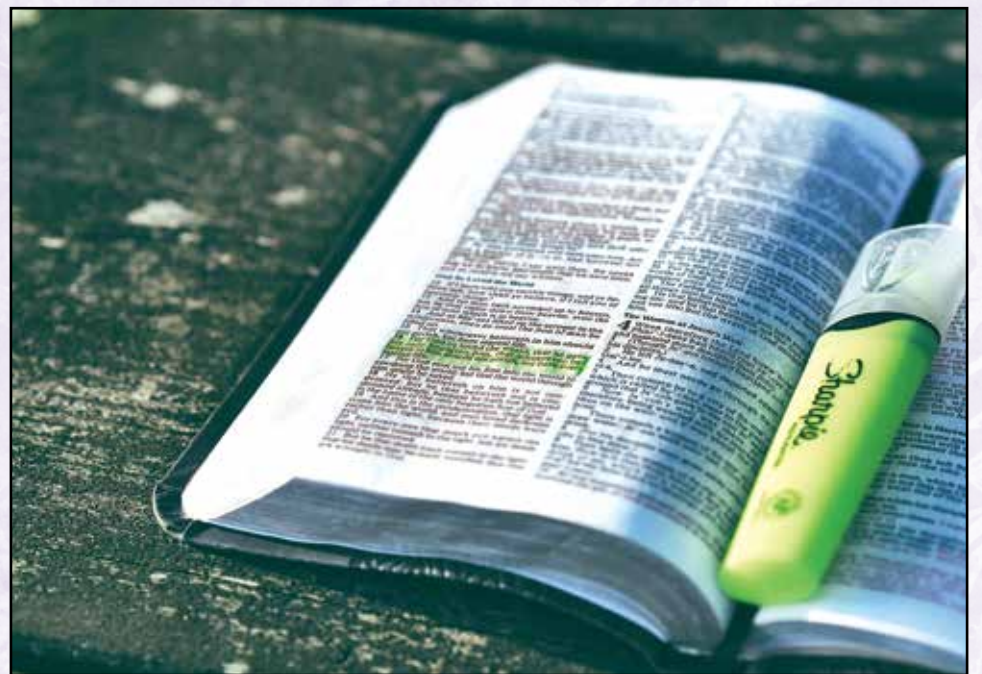
6 Throughout this preparation year, lean on the wisdom and support of your bishop. Part of your bishop's authority extends to preparing missionaries. Regularly meet to discuss your progress, challenges, and spiritual growth. Moreover, tap into the support and community offered by your ward and stake, fostering a sense of belonging and unity in preparation for your future mission.

Taking this coming life change seriously by dedicating to spiritual growth, academic excellence, and personal development will better equip any prospecting missionary to serve as an instrument in the hands of the Lord, touching lives and spreading the light of the gospel during and after missionary service.



Photo by: wal_172619 via Pixabay

Schooling should remain a priority, especially if the goal is college after service.



Scripture study is a life skill, not just for missions.

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Zooming Around The World

Digital Ways to Serve a Church Mission

By Katherine Ogden

As a member of the Church, chances are that you have served or have considered serving a mission. The Savior taught, “If ye have desires to serve God, ye are called to the work.” In previous times, we might think of serving a mission as including a move to a new city or even a new country and

probably knocking on a few doors. But as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic, it was necessary for Church leadership to implement changes to the way missions were being served. Many missionaries were redirected to serving their missions online or to serve as Service Missionaries.

With the increasing effectiveness of Zoom meetings, many proselytizing and service missions are now being served online. Service Missionaries are able to stay in their homes, stay near family, keep their pets and, in the realm of health or travel concerns, keep their same physicians.

The Crossview

Ward in the Mesa Mountain View Stake has several couples who are serving as Service Missionaries. One couple, Jim and Stephanie Abney, were called to serve in the BYU Pathway Worldwide organization. “We’re all serving in the same mission,” says Sister Abney, “which is part of Africa West Area, called the Nigeria

Continued on pg. 19

Photo courtesy of Diane Durfee
Elder & Sister Jim and Stephanie Abney.



Photo courtesy of Diane Durfee
Elder & Sister John and Kelli Schroeder, Sister & Elder Janette and Brent Patch.



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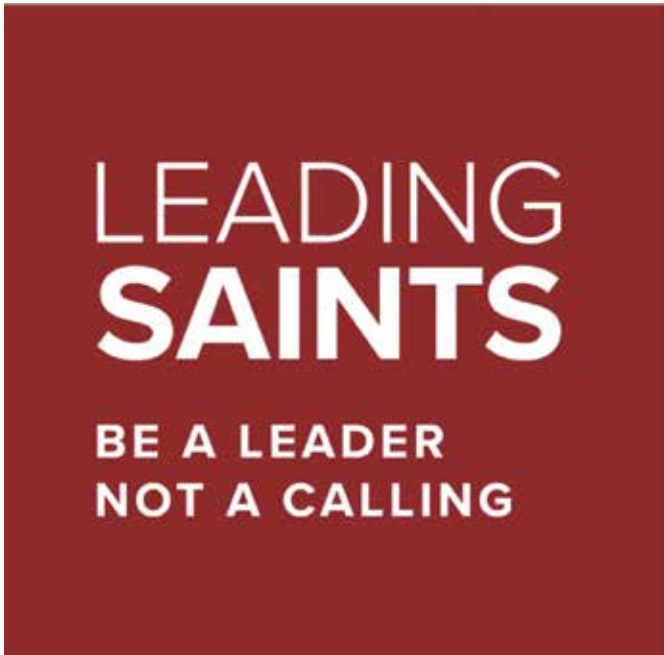
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Director and host, Kurt Francom.

PODCAST & COMMUNITY

There are endless resources for members looking to learn and grow their faith, and supplemental sources can help with more specific interests and callings. *Leading Saints* is a podcast that has been transforming the lives of leaders within the Church. If you're a new listener, be prepared to join in on a journey of empowerment, education, and inspiration. On *Leading Saints*, the host and guests are valuable resources for our unique network of lay leaders, providing tools and insights needed to serve their communities effectively.

The *Leading Saints* podcast was born out of a vision to strengthen new leaders from primary teachers to stake and mission presidents. It is hosted and directed by Kurt Francom, a dedicated member of the Church with a passion for inspiring others in their callings. Kurt's background of lay leadership as bishop, counselor, and his service in stake leadership, combined with his expertise in business administration, has made him the perfect host to guide conversations that matter most and that weigh on the heart of well-meaning leadership. Leading Saints is not just a podcast, but has events, speaking engagements, and exciting projects available to their growing community.

Throughout the years, Kurt has welcomed a diverse array of guests, from voices within our own familiar callings to well-credentialed secular leaders. Each episode brings forth unique perspectives, ideas, and experiences, fostering a sense of unity among listeners while celebrating the diversity within the Church community.

One of my personal favorite epi-

sodes addresses a quiet point about leadership that isn't often spoken of. "When Being Released Hurts", which has two parts, opens up a discussion about transitions and recognizing what's lost after a high-engagement calling ends. Other recent episodes sharing powerful messages are "Why Your Ward Needs a Disability Specialist", "Family Services Help Leaders", and "Elevating the Primary and Bishopric Relationship".

For anyone in a leadership calling or expects to have one in the future, the *Leading Saints* podcast is an invaluable resource that offers actionable advice, insights, and inspiration. From understanding how to navigate challenging situations to learning how to build strong, meaningful relationships with those they serve, each episode provides valuable people who offer their experience and personal tools for success.

While aspiring to leadership is quietly discouraged, and Leading Saints isn't an officially sanctioned resource, *Leading Saints* remains a wellspring of knowledge to prepare for future leadership responsibilities. The platform emphasizes the significance of leading with love, fostering a positive and inclusive environment that aligns with doctrinal values.

This podcast stands as a beacon of support and encouragement for new and seasoned leaders alike. Through its diverse range of episodes, inspiring guests, expertly planned events, and unwavering commitment to quality content, the podcast has become a valuable resource.

Listen on all major listening services and keep up to date on news and events at LeadingSaints.org.

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Drawn In

Artist David Bowman Brings *Come Follow Me* to Life



Author David Bowman.

By Myra Larson

David Bowman loves sharing his talent. It allows him to consider “teaching first and artist second.”

Earlier in his life, Bowman enjoyed teaching Seminary at Mt. View High School, before his marriage.

His other teaching experiences include Women’s Conference, Midway Swiss Days, and BYU Education Week. Teaching was a rewarding experience, but now his “special reward” is seeing people apply what they experience through his art and videos.

Bowman’s painting series “Expressions of Christ” feature images of the Savior showing expressions of kindness, warmth and smiles. No backgrounds are created. Each image features only Christ and children. The paintings are animated and lively; none are stoic.

Each painting exhibits a one-word title, such as one simply called “Innocence”.

Visiting with Bowman in his studio, one is surrounded by his delightful prints and paintings. He’s loved art and drawing from the age of a toddler, with typical toddler scribbling becoming recognizable pictures when he was about

three years old. He said his “desire and interest in drawing must have began in the womb.”

His paintings are created with pastel chalks, not oils (“Oils are messy!”), so he doesn’t consider his works “fine art” like many found in specialty shops. “No, I do not have any in museums,

and not in the Smithsonian Institute. That’s okay.”

3 Nephi Chapter 17 is a favored inspiration for some of Bowman’s paintings, and works to tell a story with each canvas. To make his work more available for the public, he has numerous prints available in practical, smaller sizes without frames. He chooses not sell his originals.

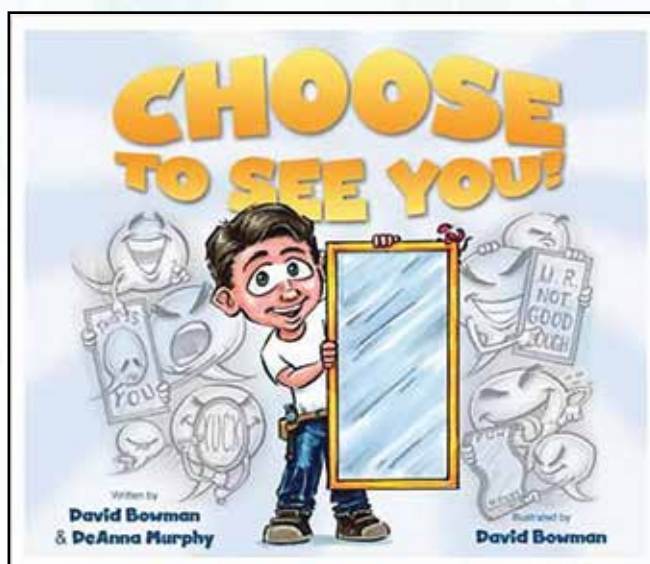
His other artistic love is a video program titled Drawn In. Bowman-created animated characters tell stories for all four years of the Come Follow Me program. The series has been described as “spiritual”, “fun”, “hilarious”, “en-

gaging”, “testimony building” and “an opportunity to come together as a family”.

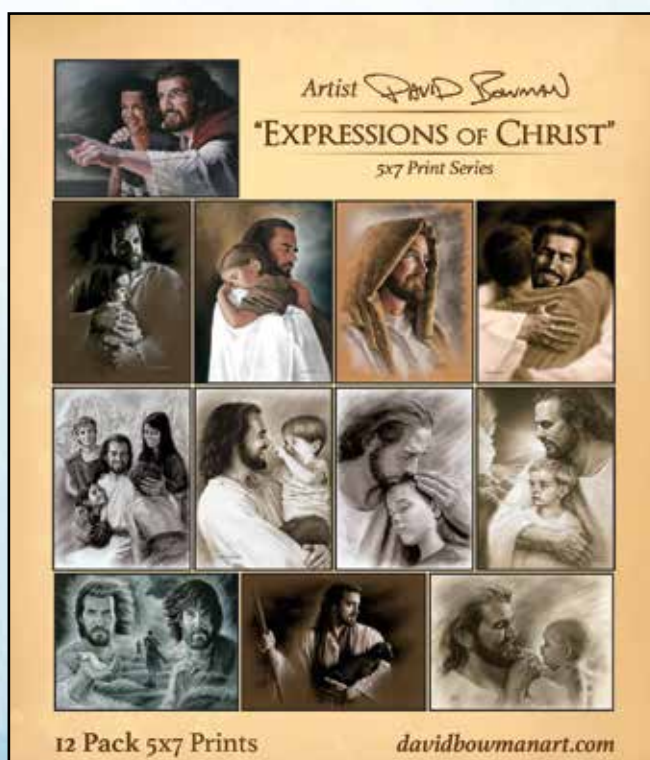
His main desire for Drawn In is to present solid doctrine in a format that holds the attention of children.

Bowman’s website introduces Drawn In by asking his visitors: Overwhelmed with implementing Come Follow Me in your family’s schedule each week... AND keeping the kids/teenagers engaged... AND helping them apply the scriptures?! Well, you’re not alone! I knew

Continued on pg. 19



“Expressions of Christ” series.



A title frame from the Drawn In video series.



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COINING FAITH

One Couple's Journey to Sharing the Gospel with Collectable Coins and More

By Emily Jex Boyle

One of life's joys is watching dreams and ideas become realities, perhaps especially satisfying when it is one of your own.

For Joyce and Christopher Curtis, creating and gathering art, while inspiring and building faith at the same time brings them great joy and satisfaction. They are among the many who have been inspired by their participation in self-reliance courses offered by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The self-reliance initiative, issued by the First Presidency, began in 2014. Since that time, local courses offered worldwide in church buildings have become excellent resources to communities everywhere. Groups are usually fewer than 12 people, led by a facilitator. Courses focus on the following topics: employment, small business, education, or personal finances. According to the Church's website, these courses help people "learn principles and skills that will empower them in caring for their own needs. Courses include topics such as how to find a job, how to start a business, how to manage finances, how to build emotional resilience, and more."

In 2019, Joyce and Christopher participated in the Business Management course offered at their local church building. As part of the course, each participant was encouraged to present an idea of a business. Joyce and Christopher thought about creating collectable coins and jewelry and decided to present this idea.

Following the course, they worked with local, accomplished artists, learning that great minds might not always think alike but they can collaborate. With Christopher's years of experience in marketing and graphic design and Joyce's determination to faithfully find the design that felt right, they persevered. At last, Joyce and Christopher held the product of hours of hard work in their hand: the Book of Mormon Promise Coin. "If I had a nickel for every time I heard Joyce share her testimony of the Book of Mormon, I'd be a rich man," Christopher says.



In 2019, Joyce and Christopher participated in a self-reliance course offered at their local church building. From there, stemmed a creative line of collectable coins and jewelry and a new business.

The coin is a creative way to share their love of the sacred book, which includes Moroni's promises engraved on it.

Joyce and Christopher started their own company called Covenant Treasures. The Book of Mormon Promise Coin as well as other products including the First Vision 200th Anniversary Coin and the Emma Hale Smith an Elect Lady Coin. Working with a silversmith, they're able to make bracelets, rings and casings, expanding on all kinds of jewelry. Their designs are available in tie tacks, lapel pins and necklaces.

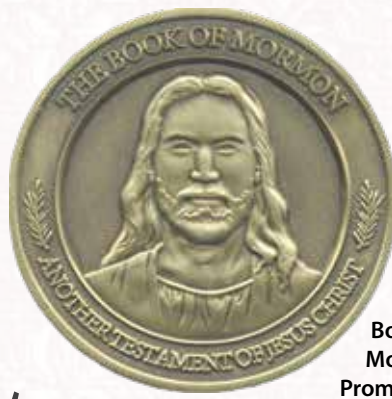
When asked about her motivation for designing these products, Joyce says, "The Lord doesn't give us these

ideas to fail but to share and unite the saints in purpose and faith for the gathering of Israel."

In a general conference address in 2008, Elder Dieter F. Uchtdorf, of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles taught, "[t]he desire to create is one of the deepest yearnings of the human soul. No matter our talents, education, backgrounds, or abilities, we each have an

inherent wish to create something that did not exist before. Everyone can create. You don't need money, position, or influence in order to create something of substance or beauty. Creation brings deep satisfaction and fulfillment."

For more information contact: Lordfirst4me@gmail.com. To view their products online go to www.covenanttreasures.com



Book of Mormon Promise Coin.



Emma Hale Smith & Elect Lady Coin.



Photos courtesy of Joyce Curtis

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Come Follow Me

This article supports the readings in the manual titled *Come, Follow Me—For Individuals and Families*, comprising the epistle to the Romans through the epistle of Jude in the New Testament.

Justified of Faith & Works Through Grace

By Robin Finlinson

The law of Moses included the eternal elements of the Ten Commandments; covenanting with God; the principles of faith, repentance and remission of sins; and the ordinance of baptism. The law did not, however, include the ordinance of receiving the Holy Ghost, required for perfecting a person, and which can only be administered through the Melchizedek Priesthood (See Hebrews 5-7 and Acts 8). As a preparatory law, administered by a preparatory priesthood (Levitical/Aaronic), it was limited.

It also had elements that were meant to be temporary, such as the law of carnal commandments, with its meticulously-defined daily practices and occasional animal sacrifices. Those elements were fulfilled by the ultimate sacrifice and resurrection of the Lamb of God. But so many unauthorized practices, sadly, had been added to the law, mutating its original form, that little of its spiritual symbolism remained by the time Jesus Christ was born into the world.

Through the epistles to the early Christians in several locations, Christ's Apostles trained and supported them in their difficult transition from unnecessary "dead works" (Heb. 6:1) and being spiritually "dead in trespasses and sins" (Eph. 2:1) to being able to "walk in the light, as he [Christ] is in the light" (1 John 1:7), with lives full of works that grow and edify the kingdom of God.

Paul assured that they were "beloved of God called saints" (JST Romans 1:7), "called...unto holiness," "given...his holy Spirit," (1 Thess. 4:7-8) and reconciled with God (Col.1:21). "For the grace of God, which bringeth salvation to all men, hath appeared" and "gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works" (JST Titus 2:11, 14).

Peter counseled the Saints "to offer up spiritual sacrifices" (1 Peter 2:5). Instead of indulging malicious thoughts, for example, and letting them inform our actions, we are to offer our hearts to Christ—allowing Him to extinguish a spark of rage as soon as we sense one. Our sacrifice includes relinquishing the temporary pleasure of vengeance won in word or deed, recognizing the better prize to be the continuous companionship of the Holy Spirit of God within us. And that companionship is



Map drawn by Tanner Finlinson, age 16

The New Testament epistles were written to teach and edify the Saints. The Apostle Paul addressed his to those in specific towns, cities and one region (Galatia). The epistle to the Hebrews was for the Saints in Jerusalem.

what President Russell M. Nelson has declared will soon be vital for the Saints.

Does a vengeful, dishonest or envious heart welcome the Holy Spirit? Logic stares down that notion. "[L]ay aside all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness," James exhorted (JST James 1:21).

In Paul's letter to Titus, he composed eloquent phrases that summarize the saintly lifestyle of Christ's sincere disciples. They include being "in all things...a pattern of good works;" "sound in faith, in charity, in patience;" "in behaviour as becometh holiness;" and giving those who contradict truth "no evil thing to say of you" (Titus 2).

But Paul didn't say all Saints are exemplary at first! "For we ourselves," he said, "also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers

lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another" (Titus 3:3).

Nothing can confirm our conviction of the reality of Christ more than witnessing the alteration of our own individual hearts by His omnipotence and grace—transforming us from "children of disobedience" and "wrath" to "children of light" who understand and prize the commandments of a devoted Eternal Father (Eph. 2:2-3; 5:8).

Only through Jesus Christ are we "justified of faith and works through grace" (JST Romans 4:16) and no longer "strangers from the covenants of promise" (Eph. 2:12). And only He is "able to keep [us] from falling, and to present [us] faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy" (Jude 1:25).

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What's Cooking?

By The Arizona Beehive Magazine

GREEN TOMATO SALSA VERDE

Going Green!

September is when our gardens start to show signs of changes due to (hopefully) cooling temperatures. With plenty of green tomatoes remaining on the vine at the end of the season, making homemade salsa is a great way to use them up. Instead of tomatillos as the main ingredient, green tomatoes, green chili peppers, onions, garlic and cilantro make a great Mexican-style Salsa Verde. Enjoy this easy and delicious salsa, fresh or freeze for later use.

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 pounds firm, green tomatoes, cored and quartered
- 1 medium-sized yellow onion, peeled and chopped
- 1 fresh green Anaheim chili pepper, stem and seeds removed, quartered
- 3-4 green jalapeño chilies or Serrano chilies (depending on desired heat), stems removed, quartered
- 3 garlic cloves, peeled and chopped
- 1 tsp. sea salt
- ¼ tsp. ground cumin
- 1 Tbs olive oil
- 3 Tbs water
- ½ tsp. fresh lemon zest
- 1 Tbs fresh lemon juice
- 1 tsp. honey or sugar, optional
- 1/3 cup loosely packed cilantro leaves, coarsely chopped

INSTRUCTIONS:

STEP 1: Combine the green tomatoes, onion, chili peppers, garlic, salt, cumin, olive oil and water in a stock pot. Bring to a boil and cook covered on a medium-low heat burner for approximately 10 minutes, stirring occasionally. *(Add more water only if needed to maintain the most minimal broth.)*

STEP 2: Stir in the lemon zest, lemon juice, honey (or sugar) and cilantro, and simmer for an additional five minutes. Taste the mixture and adjust the seasoning, if needed, by adding more lemon juice, honey and/or salt, to taste.

STEP 3: Spoon the mixture (in batches if necessary) into a food processor or blender and pulse until the salsa reaches the consistency you prefer, either chunky or a smooth puree.

Store in the refrigerator or freezer. This recipe may be doubled or tripled.



Photo courtesy of izzycooking.com

Digital Missionary Service Continued from pg. 12

Virtual Mission. Our zone is the Zarahemla zone; Brother and Sister Patch are our zone leaders. Our zone has four districts; we're district leaders for the Moroni District, while Brother and Sister Schroeder serve in the Ammon District."

They serve students ranging in ages from 19 to 58 years old. Most Nigerians already speak English, as it is taught in their schools. Classes are all held on Zoom, most are on phones as few students own computers. "It costs extra for them to turn on the visual part, so we usually only see them at the first initial Meet & Greet," says Sister Abney. Some facilitators live in the US, while some live in Nigeria. The "gathering" or online classroom, happens on Thursday evenings 7 p.m. Nigeria time, 11 a.m. Arizona time.

Church membership is not required in order to participate in classes. For non-members the pro-

gram has proven to be a great missionary tool. One young Nigerian man, who had found the church and the classes through a friend, ended up joining the church a week into the class.

This program can be conducted from just about any place in the world. "One particular week, I was attending a Writer's Conference, outside the town of Pine, Arizona," says Sister Abney, "The connection wasn't great where we were staying, but our son happens to live in Pine, so I was able to take my laptop to his home and join the virtual classroom from there, while my husband joined us from back at home."

If you would like more information on serving a similar mission for the Church, visit the website at www.churchofjesuschrist.org or contact your local stake leadership.

Come Follow Me Artist Continued from pg. 15

there had to be a way for families to enjoy the scriptures, feel the spirit, apply what they're learning, and even have FUN doing it. So, I created.... DRAWN IN!!

One father who had been less active also became enthralled with scripture stories in this format. Bowman reflects that "what matters most is what people do after they see a video."

Bowman took a deep breath when asked what his next artistic dream might be after the church related art projects are completed. "Patriotic videos. But if that became a serious dream, I would make it happen."

For more examples of Bowman's work, visit his studio at 113 S. Main St., Snowflake, Arizona, behind the Chamber of Commerce office. Visit <https://www.davidbowmanart.com>.



JUSTSERVE

Extended Family

College Students Change the Lives of People with Dementia

By Lin Sue Flood

A Mesa Community College foreign exchange student discovered the perfect way to feel at home in a new city. Buhari Abdulai signed up for the College Partners Program offered by Hospice of the Valley. The innovative program matches college students with older adults living with dementia.

"I found the vision of hospice so intriguing, and I wanted to be part of a great team that provides beautiful care to people living with dementia. There is nothing like that in my country," the 24-year-old Ghana native said.

For the next seven months, Buhari offered socialization and companionship to 80-year-old Bill Harris and his family.

"Buhari became a part of our extended family," said Bill's wife, Myra. "For two semesters, he faithfully visited on a weekly basis and his visits were eagerly anticipated by all of us. Buhari brought laughter and joy into our home. He conversed with my husband, sampled new foods with us and even allowed my grandson David to introduce him to red licorice. He played games with our grandson and graciously joined us for David's sixth birthday party — it just made

his day!"

Buhari and other College Partners volunteers say they are grateful for the chance to make a difference in people's lives. They are exposed to hands-on, real-life, career-defining experiences that have a lasting impact.

Arya Yadav said volunteering taught her how to appreciate the small things in life that we often miss and celebrate "the joy of living in the moment and relishing it as a sweet memory later."

Danielle Cooper utilized the magic of music to make meaningful connections with her person with dementia. "She loved '70s music and was able to sing every word of every song!"

Mariah Meza Perez was paired with a former nurse practitioner who shared "brave, wild and inspiring" stories from her career — and inspired her to pursue the same profession. One of her fondest memories was taking strolls together and sharing their gratitude for each other at the end of every visit.

Hospice of the Valley and its Supportive Care for Dementia program launched this unique student volunteer program

in 2021 with a grant from the national Community Care Corps. The goal is to enhance quality of life for people living with early and moderate stages of dementia, and also to reduce caregiver burden. In exchange for their generous gift of time, students receive incentives like scholarship opportunities, monthly education with dementia experts and a Dementia Training Certificate.

"The knowledge I've gained has sparked a passion inside me as a future healthcare provider," said Ali Kindred. As a College Partners volunteer, she provided companionship by watching westerns and making milkshakes, allowing a family member to take a much-needed break from caregiving.

Now that Buhari is back in Ghana, he is determined to advocate for people living with dementia. "After learning about the complexities of this disease, I realize there may be people who have been misdiagnosed as mentally ill. I plan to educate families in my community to seek medical care and obtain accurate diagnoses. People living with dementia are not mentally ill, but they do require optimal care, love and support."

To apply for the College Partners Program: contact Holly Cottor at hcottor@hov.org or (602) 515-6207. To learn more: visit hov.org/volunteer/college-partners-program



Volunteer Buhari Abdulai enjoyed providing companionship to patient Bill Harris and his grandson, David.

VALLEY TEMPLE SCHEDULES

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- Appointments for proxy ordinances are encouraged. Patrons without appointments are also welcome, but may be asked to wait for an opportunity to participate. To schedule or modify a proxy appointment, visit your temple's information at <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/temple>
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